

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION COMMISSION**

MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2016
8:30 a.m. to 4:39 p.m.

Calpine BPO Elks Lodge No. 2432
71292 Highway 70
Graeagle, CA 96103

OHMVR COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Ted Cabral, Chair
Eric Lueder, Vice Chair
Tom Lemmon
Kevin Litwin
Edward Patrovsky
Paul Slavik

OHMVR COMMISSION ABSENT

Kevin Murphy

OHMVR DIVISION STAFF PRESENT

Lisa Mangat, Director
Maria Mowrey, Acting Deputy Director
Kathryn Tobias, Legal Counsel

OTHER OHMVR DIVISION STAFF AND REGISTERED VISITORS

AGENDA ITEM I – CALL TO ORDER – 8:30 A.M.

- (A) Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Cabral.
- (B) Roll Call – Six Commissioners present at time of roll call, one Commission member absent, and two vacant Commission member appointments.

Chair Cabral introduced County Supervisor Lori Simpson, John Olofson, Daniel Lovato, OHMVR Division staff, California State Parks staff, and Director Lisa Mangat. He also announced the reappointments of Commissioners Murphy and Slavik and the appointment of Commissioner Litwin by Senator Kevin de Leon, Senate Rules Committee.

Director Mangat welcomed everyone to the OHMVR Commission meeting and thanked the public for taking time to become involved with State Parks. She spoke about the importance of partnerships and the role they play in providing seamless interactions with park visitors.

AGENDA ITEM II – AGENDA MANAGEMENT

Receiving no objections to the agenda, Chair Cabral adopted the agenda as printed.

AGENDA ITEM III – APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 5, 2016 MEETING

Receiving no corrections to the minutes, Chair Cabral approved the minutes as distributed.

AGENDA ITEM IV (A) – COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Lemmon attended the Tierra Del Sol event in early March. Due to permit issues, they held the event outside the park.

Vice Chair Lueder participated in the Mendocino National Forest Service volunteer day held in mid-May. Don Amador of Quiet Warrior Racing coordinated the event.

Commissioner Litwin toured Hungry Valley SVRA with Commissioner Slavik during Memorial Day weekend.

Commissioner Slavik reported on the following:

- He attended a Forest Service/Tread Lightly! meeting in Lake Tahoe.
- On April 28, 2016, he participated in the OHV Safety Education Committee meeting.
- He also attended a Coastal Commission meeting on May 12, 2016.
- On May 20, 2016, he attended the Honda donation presentation held at Prairie City SVRA during the Hangtown Motocross Classic event. Honda donated 20 off-highway vehicles to the OHMVR Division. The SVRAs will use these vehicles to train youth about OHV safe and responsible riding techniques.
- He participated in a tour of Hungry Valley SVRA with Commissioner Litwin on May 28, 2016. He also reported that Hungry Valley SVRA hosted a Baja Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) event on May 19-22, 2016. The event challenges engineering students from various universities to design and build an off-highway vehicle using a 5-horsepower Briggs & Stratton motor.

Chair Cabral reported on the following:

- He attended the Director's confirmation hearing and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Governor's Appointees events.
- He also attended the Hangtown Motocross Classic event held at Prairie City SVRA. He felt the \$10,000 fee the CHP charged to the Dirt Diggers North Motorcycle Club for traffic control was exorbitant.
- He continues to participate in the monthly Transformation Advisory Committee meetings. The committee received updates on the status of service-based budgeting, improved hiring practices and the possible reorganization of some of State Parks services like grants, operations, and planning.

- He met with Elizabeth Goldstein, California State Parks Foundation, to discuss the marijuana legalization initiative and proposed tax structure that could provide State Parks with a funding source.
- He attended the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument dedication. He expressed his appreciation to the staff that worked at the OHMVR Division outreach booth. He also participated in a 4x4 tour organized by Don Amador from Quiet Warrior Racing. At the end of the tour, Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, expressed her deep admiration for the California OHV program calling it “world class” and an example the rest of the country should emulate.
- He encouraged the public to become involved with national monument management plan processes by contacting their representatives.

AGENDA ITEM IV (C) – REVIEW COMMISSION COMMITTEES AND MEMBERSHIPS

The Commission took the following actions regarding the committee list:

- ATV Safety members: Commissioner Slavik (existing) and Commissioner Lemmon (added)
- BLM Liaison members: No change; Chair Cabral and Commissioner Patrovsky (existing)
- California Air Resources Board members: Chair Cabral (existing) and Commissioner Litwin (added)
- Clear Creek Management Area members: No change; Chair Cabral and Commissioner Murphy (existing)
- Cost Recovery members: No change; Vice Chair Lueder (existing). Discussion ensued on combining this ad hoc committee with the Fuel Tax Study/2018 Sunset.
- Education & Outreach members: Commissioner Murphy (existing) and Commissioner Litwin (added)
- Fuel Tax Study/2018 Sunset members: No change; Chair Cabral and Vice Chair Lueder (existing)
- Law Enforcement/Private Property Interface members: Commissioner Patrovsky (existing) and Commissioner Lemmon (added)
- Pacific Crest Trail members: No change; Chair Cabral and Commissioner Patrovsky (existing)
- Urban Parks/Acquisitions members: Commissioner Slavik (existing) and Vice Chair Lueder (added)
- USFS Liaison members: No change; Chair Cabral and Vice Chair Lueder (existing)

AGENDA ITEM IV (B) – COMMITTEE REPORTS

BLM Liaison Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Patrovsky reported that preliminary results of Dr. Robert Nolan’s additional study regarding naturally occurring asbestos

fibers in the serpentine soil in the Clear Creek Management Area indicate that the hazards are minimal.

CARB Ad Hoc Committee: Chair Cabral reported that Air Resources Board staff plan to present an update on the study at the September 2016 Commission meeting.

Fuel Tax Study/2018 Sunset Ad Hoc Committee: Vice Chair Lueder reported that he received a draft of the fuel tax study from a private individual. Director Mangat stated that the Governor's office has not provided the report on the Fuel Tax Study to the Legislature, the Department of Parks and Recreation, or the OHMVR Commission.

Chair Cabral stated that the OHV program is very important to the Director and she wants to make sure it continues to be a viable program. He also said the on-going transformation process and the OHV 2018 Program Sunset are heavily entwined.

Law Enforcement/Private Property Interface: Commissioner Lemmon reported that the Imperial County Sheriff's Department was very busy dealing with ingress/egress issues during the Tierra Del Sol event.

Pacific Crest Trail: Commissioner Patrovsky reported that two of his friends hiking through the Eastern Kern County portion of the trail encountered several motorcyclists, but in each instance, they were riding on designated motorized trails. Chair Cabral and Beth Boyst, U.S. Forest Service, agreed to meet with the Kern Recreational Landowners Association to address rerouting the PCT. They also discussed the installation of signage on private landowner trails, and agreed to look at the BLM property where the PCT and a connector trail between private trails exist. The BLM Ridgecrest Field Office discussed applying for a grant to reroute the motorized trail.

Urban Parks/Acquisitions: Commissioner Slavik reported that the private motocross facility in Riverside County would soon be open. Commissioner Patrovsky stated that the Baldy Mesa project has begun. He plans to tour the area in the very near future. Chair Cabral asked Commissioner Slavik to contact Dean Stanford regarding the Urban Electric Park in the San Francisco South Bay Region near San Jose/Santa Clara to offer support for the project.

USFS Liaison: Chair Cabral reported that the three early adopters of the 2012 Forest Service Planning Rule—the Sierra, Sequoia, and Inyo National Forests—released their Forest Assessment Documents. The Forests removed most of the restrictive language about OHV use. The Appalachian Trail Management programmatic plan would be the model for the PCT. Recreation classifications would include motorized, non-motorized, and non-mechanized making it very straightforward and easy to manage.

AGENDA ITEM V(A) – INFORMATION REPORTS: TRANSFORMATION TEAM UPDATE

Director Mangat presented the Transformation Team update. The Parks Forward Commission was created in 2012 to review and provide recommendations on ways to

improve the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department). Governor Brown's budget for the last two years highlighted the transformation and modernization of the Department.

Recent improvements include the installation of card readers so more parks could accept credit and debit cards. State beaches in Southern California are testing smartphone technology that allows visitors to pay parking fees directly from their smartphones. The 2013 State Auditor report noted there were substantial delays from budget approval to when park management learned of their budget allocations. The implementation of new procedures will ensure field management receives their budget information by July 1st.

It took three months before revenue generated in the field actually registered in Sacramento making it very difficult to make policy decisions based on revenue resources. The Department reduced that three-month lag time to 48 hours. The Department has also released, for the third year in a row, its Park Unit Costing Report.

Additional modernization steps include service-based budgeting and review of the organizational structure and job classifications. Director Mangat talked about the duplicative tasks that sometimes occur between the Department and Divisions. She stressed the importance of engaging internal and external stakeholders to talk about the types of things the Department hopes to accomplish through an organizational structure update.

Director Mangat spoke about the significance of the reappointment of Commissioners Slavik and Murphy, which shows the Governor's dedication to the OHV program. She also assured everyone that she would be personally involved in the OHV program sunset conversations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM V(A) – PARKS TRANSFORMATION TEAM UPDATE

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition
- Kyle Felker, Sierra Access Coalition and Bucks Lake Snow Drifters
- John Stewart, California Four-Wheel Drive Association
- Dave Pickett, District 36
- Amy Granat
- Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association
- Dean Stanford
- Sylvia Milligan, Recreation Outdoors Coalition

In response to public comments, Director Mangat stated that whatever happens going forward, the Department would have to make sure that the OHV funds are preserved and used in accordance to state statute governing those funds. She thanked Ms. Granat for attending the Parks Forward Commission meetings and speaking on

behalf of OHV recreation. The Director, Deputy Director Mowrey, and Commissioners Cabral and Lueder will meet with the Department of Finance to review all loans and takes from the OHV Trust Fund.

Commissioner Lemmon agreed with many of the public comments and acknowledged the importance of maintaining the OHV program.

Vice Chair Lueder thanked the Director for attending the tour and meeting and stated that transparency would be crucial to build trust. He suggested the Transformation website include supporting documentation. Vice Chair Lueder recommended that more descriptive language about the different types of park units be included on the State Parks website.

Commissioner Litwin thanked the public for attending the meeting and providing comments.

Commissioner Slavik commented on the Triennial Report and possible inaccurate financial information on the Milestones chart in the 2014 Report. He requested an update to reflect accurate information in the 2017 Report.

Director Mangat acknowledged Vice Chair Lueder's request for more descriptive information regarding the different types of park classifications. She also acknowledged the importance of maintaining transparency during the transformation process.

In response to Chair Cabral's inquiry about long-term sustainable funding sources for State Parks, Director Mangat stated that even though the Legislature allocated a one-time \$31 million fuel tax revenue redirect from OHV to State Parks, the Legislature expects Parks to propose a sustainable funding model with the next budget proposal.

In response to Chair Cabral's request to maintain transparency with the OHV Commission and the public regarding the transformation process, Director Mangat stated that she would discuss with the Governor's office methods of communicating this information.

AGENDA ITEM V(B) – INFORMATION REPORTS: CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE MOTORIZED TRAIL

Katie Metraux, Associate Park and Recreation Specialist, OHMVR Division Planning Unit, presented a report on the California Statewide Motorized Trail (CSMT). The Off-Highway Motor Recreation Act of 2003 directs the OHMVR Division to assist in designating corridors throughout California to accommodate OHV recreation.

The California Recreational Trails Act of 1974 required the Department to develop a recreational trail system plan that included various recreational activities. The OHV recreation section completed in 1978 analyzed OHV recreation throughout California and recommended the designation of an OHV trails system. Planning efforts in the late 1970s and '80s included the concept of the California Backcountry Discovery Trail. In

2002, the Legislature passed the OHMVR Act that designated the strategic OHV trail program as the California Statewide Motorized Trail.

Recognizing the increased interest in a statewide long-distance motorized trail, the OHMVR Division 2009 Strategic Plan established Goal 2 of Objective 2.5 to implement the CSMT by 2020. The OHMVR Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program supports the CSMT by providing grants to local, state, and federal agencies to designate motorized trail corridors throughout California.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM V(B) – CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE MOTORIZED TRAIL

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition
- John Stewart, California Four-Wheel Drive Association
- Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association
- Sylvia Milligan, Recreation Outdoors Coalition
- Amy Granat

A brief discussion ensued regarding the CSMT. Chair Cabral asked Division staff to remove project-level information from the CSMT documentation and provide the Commission with a programmatic-only plan at a future meeting.

In response to Commissioner Slavik's inquiry, Ms. Metraux stated that the Division does not have a current map of potential corridors.

AGENDA ITEM VI(A) – PROGRAM REPORTS: U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPORT

Garrett Villanueva, Regional Trail and Travel Management Lead, Pacific Southwest Region, USFS, reported on the following:

- Commenting on the CSMT report, Mr. Villanueva agreed that a programmatic approach is probably the only way the Forest Service would be able to move forward on this project. He stated that it would be important to identify types of uses for the CSMT in order to review existing routes that could provide connectivity.
- He presented a slide illustrating nearly 40,000 miles of designated motorized opportunities on forestlands within California. Plumas National Forest has approximately 4,000 miles of designated motorized routes with 3,842 miles open to green sticker vehicles.
- The National Trail Strategy, due to be released this summer, will establish a framework to guide and improve how the USFS manages its trail system. It will also serve as a catalyst for increased collaboration with public and private partners to develop trail systems that would meet the long-term needs of local communities as well as the Forest Service.

- The USFS estimated the economic benefit from recreation in California is approximately \$300 million. These economic benefits provide opportunities for local communities and the recreation industry.
- The Forest Service is also reviewing staff training and its skilled development programs with an emphasis on partnerships.
- The Forest Service developed a digital strategy to provide electronic versions of motor vehicle use maps to visitors.
- Public scoping meetings have been held for the over-snow vehicle travel management process on all five forests—Lassen, Plumas, Tahoe, Stanislaus, and Eldorado.
- Draft forest plan revisions for the three early adopter forests—Sierra, Inyo, and Sequoia—are available for public review. Forest plan revisions for the middle adopter forests—Plumas, Lassen, Tahoe, and Eldorado—will be worked on next. The 2012 Planning Rule that guides forest plan revision states that travel management cannot be part of the forest plan revision.
- In April, Lake Tahoe hosted a California Ride On! educational campaign stakeholder meeting. Components of the campaign include the development of a social media campaign and the creation of designated route stickers for route markers.

Brief discussions were held on the following items:

- The USFS and BLM making a presentation before the Transformation Team
- The benefits of the OHV grants to the Forest Service
- The impacts of fires on forest budgets
- The use of QR codes on Carsonite posts throughout the forests
- The availability of cached maps on smartphone mapping apps
- Multi-language educational materials and websites
- Posting useful information on social media platforms

AGENDA ITEM VI(B) – PROGRAM REPORTS: BLM REPORT

Jane Arteago, BLM California State Office, reported on the following:

- One-page reports on current BLM planning projects will be prepared for the next Commission meeting
- The Marines will close the Johnson Valley OHV shared use area for public access August 1 through August 30, 2016
- Teri Raml promoted to the Washington, D.C. office; Tom Zale promoted to District Manager; Carrie Simmons took the El Centro Field Office Manager position; and Este Stifel accepted a special project assignment in the National Landscape Conservation program in Washington, D.C.
- Imperial Sand Dunes had more than 760,000 visitors to date, with 320 medicals, and six fatalities

- The rangers in Imperial Sand Dunes developed a one-on-one workshop called Fatal Vision using goggles that simulate drunkenness
- Barstow Field Office held public meetings for the Razor Road OHV area management plan

Marisa Williams, Eagle Lake Field Office, reported on the following:

- The Eagle Lake Field Office is comprised of 1,000,022 acres of public lands and approximately 7,000 miles of OHV roads and trails
- Ms. Williams presented a slideshow illustrating the major accomplishments and successful restoration projects that occurred in the Fort Sage OHV Area due to OHV grant funding.
 - A planning grant in 2012 provided funding to develop a new Diamondback OHV staging area on an old trash dumpsite.
 - A Lassen Motorcycle Club planning grant helped with the construction of new trails.
 - A recent acquisition would allow for the development of a connector trail from the Widowmaker to the uphill area.
 - Successful restoration of illegal use occurred in the Turtle Mountain Wildlife Area
- A development grant for the Rice Canyon OHV Open Area includes loading ramps, shade structures, public education signs, and trail maintenance.
- Wilderness study areas plans include the creation of maps to let users know where they can ride.

In response to Commissioner Litwin's inquiry, Ms. Williams confirmed that the Fort Sage area is open for camping. Camping facilities include picnic tables, fire rings, barbecues, a loading ramp, and vault toilets.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS VI(A&C) – USFS AND BLM REPORTS

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition and Quiet Warrior Racing
- Kyle Felker, Bucks Lake Snow Drifters Snowmobile Club and Sierra Access Coalition
- Dave Pickett, District 36
- John Stewart, California Four-Wheel Drive Association
- Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association
- Amy Granat, California Off-Road Vehicle Association
- Sylvia Milligan, Recreation Outdoors Coalition

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- Dean Stanford
- Amy Granat, California Off-Road Vehicle Association

- Dave Pickett, District 36
- Jeff Blewett
- Sylvia Milligan, Recreation Outdoors Coalition

AGENDA ITEM VI(D) – PROGRAM REPORTS: OHV SAFETY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Greg Schumaker, OHV Safety and Training Coordinator, presented a report on the OHV Safety Education Committee meeting held on April 28, 2016, in Sacramento. Present at the meeting were OHMVR Commissioner Paul Slavik, California Highway Patrol designee Captain Kevin Davis, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) designee Robert Benson, and OHMVR staff members.

Meeting topics included the history of the OHV program, the history of the OHV Safety Education Committee, California ATV laws, the current ATV safety certificate program, and the DMV requirements to become an ATV safety training organization.

On May 10, 2016, members of the Committee participated in an ATV rider course at Prairie City SVRA. Future meetings will address the ATV safety certificate challenges that may affect the development of minimum criteria for certification as an ATV safety training organization.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the possibility of developing an online component for ATV safety training followed by a hands-on challenge course.

AGENDA ITEM V(E) – PROGRAM REPORTS: OHMVR COMMISSION TRIENNIAL PROGRAM REPORT

Katie Metraux, Associate Park and Recreation Specialist, OHMVR Division Planning Team, presented a staff report on the proposed 2017 Commission Triennial Program Report.

Public Resources Code section 5090.24(h) requires the OHMVR Commission to prepare and submit an OHMVR program report to the Governor and Legislature every three years. The report addresses the status of the program, OHV recreation, and other required components such as Strategic Plan accomplishments, condition of natural and cultural resources in areas funded by the OHV Trust Fund, conflict and trespass resolution, and resource monitoring and restoration projects.

A brief discussion ensued regarding additional components for the report.

- Commissioner Slavik recommended including information on how the General Plan process relates to conflict resolution.
- Vice Chair Lueder suggested highlighting in Report Requirement 6 the collaborative efforts made to include environmental and educational groups, law enforcement, and scientific experts to provide input on OHV recreation.
- Chair Cabral recommended including information on the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

A discussion ensued regarding economic impacts and demographics and the importance of tracking this information for future reports.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS VI(D-E)

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- John Stewart, California Four-Wheel Drive Association
- Dave Pickett, District 36
- Nick Haris, American Motorcyclist Association
- Amy Granat, California Off-Road Vehicle Association
- Sylvia Milligan, Recreation Outdoors Coalition

AGENDA ITEMS VI(F)(1-7) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS

Marie Mowrey, Acting Deputy Director, OHMVR Division, thanked everyone for attending the meeting and complimented Plumas National Forest and the County of Plumas for providing great OHV sustainable recreation. She also thanked Director Mangat for attending the meeting and providing an update on Transformation.

Vice Chair Lueder requested a copy of the full transcript of this Commission meeting versus a summary.

AGENDA ITEM VI(F)(1) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS: OVER-SNOW VEHICLE PROGRAM

Kelly Long, Winter Recreation Program Manager, presented an updated on the over-snow vehicle (OSV) program. The OSV program has been in existence since the 1980s and provides groomed snowmobile trails and access to winter trailheads. The program encompasses 26-groomed trail systems (over 1,700 miles of snowmobile trails) located on 11 national forests. Other recreation groups including cross-country skiers, snowshoers, and dog sledders also use the trails and trailheads.

Funding for the OSV program has been part of the operational budget for the OHMVR Division since 2005. A fleet of 15 state-owned grooming tractors stationed throughout the state accomplishes most of the grooming. The program has the honor of having the first Tier 4 tractor deployed in the State of California. Tier 4 is the highest-level category available for clean-burning, low-emission diesel engines. The grooming tractors for the OSV program tallied over 1,500 hours of grooming during the 2015/2016-winter season. The program also provides an important economic catalyst to many small rural communities.

In response to Commissioner Litwin's inquiry, Mr. Long stated that a typical OSV Program season runs from December to April.

AGENDA ITEM VI(F)(2) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS: BUDGET REPORT (FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017)

Maria Mowrey, Acting Deputy Director, provided the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget Report. The proposed budget includes repayment of \$112 million in outstanding OHV loans. There is also a one-time redirect of \$31 million of fuel tax revenue to SPRF. The repayment of the loans brings the OHV Trust Fund reserve to \$149 million.

In response to Commissioner Slavik's inquiry, Ms. Mowrey stated that no funding is available for the Eastern Kern County Onyx Ranch SVRA general plan in this fiscal year budget proposal.

In response to Vice Chair Lueder's inquiry, Ms. Mowrey stated that the moratorium on budget change proposals except for health and safety projects remains in effect.

Ms. Mowrey informed Commissioner Lemmon that staff would look into the \$20 million grant awarded to Riverside in the 1990s for an acquisition project that was never completed.

In response to Commissioner Litwin's question, Director Mangat confirmed that state government departments typically do not report monthly expenditures and actuals. However, with the implementation of service-based budgeting, the Department will be able to provide that type of information.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the budget process.

AGENDA ITEM VI(F)(2) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS: GRANTS PROGRAM

George MacDougall, Northern California Grant Administrator, presented the Grants Program update. On May 2, 2016, 185 final grant applications were submitted totaling \$31.3 million. A projected \$26 million in funding would be available based upon the passage of the proposed budget. The Intent to Award notification was posted on the Division's website on June 6, 2016, triggering a 30-day appeal period. If no appeals are filed, the awards become final on July 7, 2016.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the total amount requested and the actual amount of funding available for grants.

In response to Commissioner Litwin's inquiry, Mr. MacDougall stated that all grant applications are available for review on the Online Grant Application website.

In response to Commissioner Slavik's inquiry about the increase in RTP grant funds, Matt Whammond, OHMVR Division Grant Administrator, stated that additional funds were made available this grant cycle because of a federal hold on the funds the past few years.

In response to Chair Cabral's question, Mr. Whammond stated that the OHV Grant fund allocation has remained at \$26 million for at least six Grant cycles.

Chair Cabral suggested adding an emergency grant fund component to the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program that could be used for catastrophic events such as wildfires.

AGENDA ITEM VI(F)(4) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS: SVRA GENERAL PLANS

Dan Canfield, OHMVR Division Planning Manager, presented a report on the status of the SVRA General Plans. A general plan is the primary guiding planning document for a unit of State Parks. General plans provide a vision and a framework of goals and guidelines that direct future recreation and resource management activities as well as facility development.

Carnegie SVRA: In February 2016, the Commission conducted a hearing on the Carnegie SVRA General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in Tracy, California. The Commission received a report on the EIR from the General Plan Team and public comment from approximately 60 interested parties. The oral comments and additional written letters, along with the responses, were incorporated into the planning document that will be submitted to the OHMVR Commission for consideration of approval.

Hungry Valley SVRA: The SVRA is located near the Los Angeles metropolitan area along Interstate 5 near the community of Gorman and adjacent to the Los Padres National Forest. The first steps in the General Plan process include launching the General Plan website, PlanHungryValley.com, and surveying visitors.

A brief discussion ensued regarding potential meeting dates for the Carnegie SVRA General Plan. No date was selected. Chair Cabral suggested holding the meeting in the Sacramento area and Mr. Canfield confirmed that Sacramento would meet the Public Resources Code 100-mile radius requirement. Mr. Canfield also confirmed that the Planning Team did not receive any additional comments that would require significant changes to the General Plan/EIR.

Chair Cabral suggested Commissioners Litwin and Lemmon tour Carnegie SVRA prior to the General Plan meeting.

In response to a question on closed sessions, Legal Counsel Tobias stated that closed sessions are allowed for discussions on pending litigation, the threat of litigation, and personnel matters.

Ms. Tobias confirmed that once the public comment period is closed, the Commissioners should not ask the public any additional questions because that would open up the public comment period again. She also suggested the newly appointed Commissioners immerse themselves in the General Plan documents and read the public hearing transcript to better acquaint themselves with all of the issues that have been brought forward.

AGENDA ITEM VI(F)(5) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS: LEGISLATION

Tina Williams, OHMVR Division, presented the Legislation update and introduced Deputy Director for Legislation Affairs, Marivel Barajas, and Ted Blanchard, Capital Director for Assemblyman Brian Jones.

SB 1345, the Combined Motorized Use Pilot Project, would extend the Inyo County Combined Use Project until January 1, 2020. The bill would prohibit combined use segments from not exceeding ten miles. It would also require California State Parks, CHP, and Caltrans to collaborate with the County to develop and submit an evaluation report on the pilot project to the Legislature by January 1, 2019. The bill was re-referred to the Committee on Transportation.

AB 2175, the Fuel Tax OHV Trust Fund Initiative, would eliminate the transfer of \$833,000 per month to the General Fund from the OHV Trust Fund. If passed, it would go into effect July 1, 2017. Ted Blanchard, Assemblyman Brian Jones' office, reported the bill passed the Assembly and moved to the Senate Rules Committee.

HR 4060 directs the Department of Interior to transfer BLM land to the State of California as part of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and transfer additional land to Imperial County. The bill was re-referred to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands.

HR 5129, the Guides and Outfitters Act, would allow the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to streamline the processes of issuing special recreation use permits. The bill would cap permit fees and eliminate any duplication in the permit process. It was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Committee on Agriculture on April 29, 2016.

A brief discussion ensued regarding SBX1. SBX1 is a statutory cleanup bill to correct an error that occurred in previous legislation. The bill also diverts funds from the motor vehicle account to the Highway Users Tax Account.

AGENDA ITEM VI(F)(6) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS: OUTREACH/EDUCATION 2015 RECAP

Donna McGuire, Education Outreach Program Manager, presented the 2015 Statewide Education Program Report providing an overview highlighting some of the outreach programs that were implemented to reach a broader, more diverse audience. The Program proved to be highly successful during 2015, serving more than 230,000 people.

Heber Dunes SVRA offers an after-school Junior Ranger program on a weekly basis throughout the school year. The interpreter educates the students about nature, local history, and recreation opportunities at the SVRA.

Science camps at Hollister Hills SVRA offer visitors an opportunity to participate in curriculum-based education programs. Students learn about the local plants and

animals, geology, and management practices to balance OHV recreation and resource protection.

During the annual Kids Adventure Connection Weekend at Ocotillo Wells SVRA, children complete a series of outdoor activities based on the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.

As a strategy to reach teens, the OHMVR Division collaborated with *SportStars* magazine publishing a monthly article and ad. The ad promotes visitation to SVRAs and provides a web address for subscribers to learn how to recreate safely and responsibly.

In May 2016, the OHMVR Division hosted a weeklong training program for the interpretation and outreach staff. Training sessions focused on interpretive methods that included technology-based learning tools and best practices to educate today's audience.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the Off-Highway PAL program and the importance of reaching the under-served youth.

AGENDA ITEM VI(F)(7) – DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS: LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mark Hada, Visitor Services Manager, presented an update on various law enforcement projects. Consistent with the Division's transparency policy, the Law Enforcement Grant Site Visit Reports are posted online under the Grants section of the OHMVR Division's website.

The Law Enforcement team resumed the POST-approved OHV Laws Enforcement class to educate local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the state about OHV laws.

In February 2015, the OHMVR Division installed four information kiosks on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). Installation of an additional kiosk will occur in the near future.

The Law Enforcement team will provide law enforcement and public safety support on the Rubicon Trail in the summer of 2016 and at the King of the Hammers in 2017. In addition, the team provides support to the Eastern Kern County Onyx Ranch SVRA during periods of increased activity.

Chair Cabral suggested the installation of additional signage to alert OHV recreationists that they are approaching the PCT.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS VI(D, E, F(1-7) – OHV SAFETY COMMITTEE, 2017 TRIENNIAL REPORT, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORTS

Comments were heard from the following individuals:

- Kyle Felker, Sierra Access Coalition and Bucks Lake Snow Drifters
- John Stewart, California Four-Wheel Drive Association
- Dean Stanford

- Dave Pickett, District 36

Commissioner Slavik informed the Commission that Castaic Lake would host a Youth Recreation Day on October 16-17, 2016.

In closing, Chair Cabral reminded the Commission that the next scheduled meeting is set for September 8-9, 2016. The meeting agenda may include the Prairie City SVRA General Plan. A Carnegie SVRA General Plan meeting may be scheduled within the next few months.

Vice Chair Lueder made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Litwin, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.